

## Message Text

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61

ACTION ARA-20

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO USIA WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6354

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 5274

USIAC

E.O. 11652: GDS

1. IN OFFICIAL PRESS COMMUNIQUE ISSUED OCT. 23 JUNTA AGAIN COMPLAINS OF "CAMPAIGN OF JOURNALISTIC DISTORTION ABROAD" CONCERNING EVENTS IN CHILE WHICH "BECAUSE OF LACK OF INFORMATION" IS "GIVING A BAD IMAGE OF OUR COUNTRY."

2. COMMUNIQUE REFERS SPECIFICALLY TO ARTICLE IN "NEW YORK TIMES" STATING CARDINAL (SILVA) "WORRIED BY SITUATION IN CHILE" WHILE IT CLAIMS "CARDINAL HIMSELF IS IN ROME SAYING SITUATION IN CHILE IS NORMAL", AND WILL "GO TO NEW YORK AND SPEAK WITH EDITOR...TO CLARIFY SITUATION." ALSO SAYS FOREIGN PRESS MISQUOTED JUNTA PRESIDENT PINOCHET AS STATING INTERVENED ENTERPRISES WOULD BE RETURNED WHEREAS TRUTH IS THAT SITUATION STILL BEING STUDIES AND "SOME WILL REMAIN FOR SECURITY REASONS IN POWER OF STATE." (COMMENT: CARDINAL'S PRIVATE SECRETARY TOLD PRESS ATTACHE SILVA CURRENTLY IN NEW YORK AND NOT DUE IN ROME UNTIL NEXT WEEK).

3. PRESS SECRETARY WILLOUGHBY TOLD PAO PRIVATELY COMPLAINTS CENTERED ON REPORTS BY NYT CORRESPONDENT MARVINE HOWE WHICH HAD BEEN SEEN BY JUNTA AS SENT VIA CHILEAN TELEX AND WHICH INCLUDED STORY ON ALLEGED SUICIDE OF CHILEAN OFFICIAL CAUSED BY THEIR POLICIES. WILLOUGHBY DID NOT FURTHER DESCRIBE STORY BUT INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT "PRESS BULLETIN NUMBER FIVE OF CLANDESTINE 'ARAUCO' NEWS SERVICE" (GIVEN TO IO BY FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT WHO CLAIMS HE CONFIDENTIAL

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RECEIVED IT IN MAIL (SEPTTEL) INCLUDES THREE SEPARATE ALLEGED

SUICIDE ACCOUNTS OF CHILEANS, INCLUDING COMMANDANT OF ARMY MOUNTAIN WARFARE SCHOOL WHO HAD SUPPOSEDLY OPPOSED JUNTA. (LATTER LISTED BY MINDEFENSE AS KIA) WILLOUGHBY SAID JUNTA EXTREMELY IRRITATED BY HOWE STORIES AND WANTED HER EXPELLED IMMEDIATELY "AT VERY LEAST". HE AGREED THIS ACTION MIGHT CAUSE MORE PROBLEMS THAN IT SOLVED.

4. HOWE TOLD IO WEDNESDAY THAT AT WILLOUGHBY PRESS CONFERENCE ON TUESDAY HE MADE SPECIFIC REFERENCE ITEMS MENTIONED PAR. 2 AND AFTER CONFERENCE INVITED HER TO DROP BY HIS OFFICE LATER THAT AFTERNOON. AT MEETING WILLOUGHBY VERY POLITE AND EVEN APOLOGETIC BUT STRESSED THAT JUNTA UPSET ABOUT HER REPORTING STATING "THE JUNTA DOESN'T LIKE WHAT YOU'RE DOING". WHEN ASKED BY HOWE WHAT JUNTA SPECIFICALLY UPSET ABOUT HE REPLIED THAT NO CLAIM MADE SHE WAS REPORTING LIES ("MENTIRAS") BUT "EMPHASIS" OF HER STORIES WAS UPSETTING TO JUNTA. HOWE ALSO SAID WILLOUGHBY OFFERED "MAKE DEAL" AND "WILLING ASSIST HER IN OPENING DOORS TO GET TO FACTS CONCERNING SENSITIVE STORIES". WILLOUGHBY ALSO ADMITTED TO HOWE THAT MILITARY INTELLIGENCE MONITORING STORIES BEING FILED BY FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS VIA COMMERCIAL TELEX. AT NO TIME DID HE SAY SHE ON VERGE OF BEING EXPELLED BUT DID ASK "HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN TO REMAIN IN CHILE?" SHE REPLIED ABOUT ONE WEEK MORE. HOWE TOLD IO THAT "TIMES" JONATHAN KANDELL PLANNING RETURN SANTIAGO NEXT WEEK. (FYI: HOWE CLAIMED AUTHORSHIP OF ARTICLE REFERRING TO CARDINAL AND SAID KANDELL HAD DONE PIECE ON SATE-INTERVENED ENTERPRISES).

5. COMMENT: SITUATION INDICATIVE OF CONTINUING JUNTA DILEMMA BETWEEN INTERNAL SECURITY AND IMAGE ABROAD. SITUATION CORRESPONDENTS REMAINS PRECARIOUS. "LE MONDE" CORRESPONDENT PIERRE KALFON RECENTLY EXPELLED FROM COUNTRY AND "L'UNITA" CORRESPONDENT GIORGIO VICARIO ALSO ASKED TO LEAVE ONCE HE HAS SETTLED HIS AFFAIRS.

HALSEMA

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## Message Attributes

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